



City Councilmember

Carl DeMaio

News Release

DeMaio Calls for Full Transparency in City's Five-Year Financial Outlook

Financial Forecasts Once Again Ignore True Infrastructure Deficit

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SAN DIEGO – Councilmember DeMaio is calling for a full disclosure of infrastructure maintenance needs in the City's Five-Year Financial Outlook.

The Five-Year Outlook was presented yesterday at the Budget and Finance Committee meeting, where DeMaio criticized the exclusion of the true infrastructure deficit from the City's financial forecasts.

"The full infrastructure deficit must be included in five-year forecasts. We need a real target that accurately reflects the needs of our communities," DeMaio said. "We need honesty and transparency or our streets will continue to fall apart."

"Once again, City leaders are ignoring the problem of crumbling streets and failing infrastructure and hoping that the problem will solve itself. Unfortunately, that's simply not a reality if we do not account for ongoing maintenance of streets, water pipes, parks, and other city facilities," DeMaio concluded.

While the Mayor's office included infrastructure bond payments in the forecasts, DeMaio pointed out that those funds cannot be used for the ongoing maintenance. Unfortunately, that is exactly how the City ended up with its current sum of \$840 million in deferred maintenance.

Just last month DeMaio released his "Save Our Streets" action plan, which called for a full disclosure by the Mayor's office of the total infrastructure deficit in five-year forecasts. Additional reforms included an "Infrastructure Lock Box" to fund street repairs without the need to put the city further into debt with bonds, as well as management and policy changes. These changes will allow the city to properly manage the maintenance and repair of streets; a critical problem currently.

The Budget and Finance Committee will focus on infrastructure needs at its upcoming November 2 meeting where DeMaio will continue to push for a comprehensive street repair and maintenance policy.

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